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SANDRIDGE  
& RICE**

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**MAY 23 2006**

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## FACSIMILE

May 23, 2006

Number of Pages: 21

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C/M

38400.0143.1

**To:**

**Company:**

**Fax:**

**Phone:**

Examiner Pollicoff, Steven  
Art Unit: 3728

U.S. Patent and Trademark  
Office

571-273-8300

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/801,523  
Title: A FLAT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LOCKING SYSTEM  
Our File No.: R029 1500 (38400.0143.1)

### Amendment and Response

WCSR 2163663v1

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002/021

MAY 23 2006

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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|   |                      |                        |           |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 10/801,523             |           |
|   | Filing Date          | March 15, 2004         |           |
|   | First Named Inventor | Robert L. Sutherland   |           |
|   | Art Unit             | 3728                   |           |
|   | Examiner Name        | Pollkoff, Steven B.    |           |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 20                   | Attorney Docket Number | R029 1500 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| Remarks   |  |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Firm Name                                  | Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC |
| Signature                                  | <i>Andrew N. Claerbout</i>            |
| Printed name                               | Andrew N. Claerbout                   |
| Date                                       | 5/23/06                               |
| Reg. No.                                   | 50,202                                |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: |                     |
| Signature   | <i>Pam Tumbough</i> |
| Typed or printed name   | Pam Tumbough        |
| Date  | 5/23/06             |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/17 (12-04v2)

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Effective on 12/09/2004.

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

**FEE TRANSMITTAL  
For FY 2005**☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)

.00

**Complete if Known**

Application Number 10/801,523  
 Filing Date March 15, 2004  
 First Named Inventor Robert L. Sutherland  
 Examiner Name Pollicoff, Steven B.  
 Art Unit 3728  
 Attorney Docket No. R029 1500

**RECEIVED  
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☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify):

☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 09-0528 Deposit Account Name: Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

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**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

| Application Type | FILING FEES |                       | SEARCH FEES |                       | EXAMINATION FEES |                       | Fees Paid (\$) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|                  | Fee (\$)    | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$)    | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$)         | Small Entity Fee (\$) |                |
| Utility          | 300         | 150                   | 500         | 250                   | 200              | 100                   |                |
| Design           | 200         | 100                   | 100         | 50                    | 130              | 65                    |                |
| Plant            | 200         | 100                   | 300         | 150                   | 160              | 80                    |                |
| Reissue          | 300         | 150                   | 500         | 250                   | 600              | 300                   |                |
| Provisional      | 200         | 100                   | 0           | 0                     | 0                | 0                     |                |

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES****Fee Description**

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

Multiple dependent claims

| Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) |
|----------|-----------------------|
| 50       | 25                    |
| 200      | 100                   |
| 360      | 180                   |

**Total Claims**      **Extra Claims**      **Fee (\$)**      **Fee Paid (\$)**  
 39 - 20 or HP = 0 x 50.00 = .00

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

**Indep. Claims**      **Extra Claims**      **Fee (\$)**      **Fee Paid (\$)**  
 9 - 3 or HP = 0 x 200.00 = .00

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(c)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

**Total Sheets**      **Extra Sheets**      **Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof**      **Fee (\$)**      **Fee Paid (\$)**  
 - 100 = / 50 = (round up to a whole number) x =

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge):

**SUBMITTED BY**

Signature: *Andrew N. Claerbout*      Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 50,202      Telephone 404-879-2453  
 Name (Print/Type) Andrew N. Claerbout      Date 5/23/06

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1460, Alexandria, VA 22313-1460. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                             |   |             |                      |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|
| In Re Application of:       | ) | Examiner:   | Pollicoff, Steven B. |
|                             | ) |             |                      |
| Robert L. Sutherland et al. | ) | Art Unit:   | 3728                 |
|                             | ) |             |                      |
| Serial No.: 10/801,523      | ) | Conf. No.:  | 3206                 |
|                             | ) |             |                      |
| Filed: March 15, 2004       | ) | Docket No.: | R029 1500            |

For: A FLAT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LOCKING SYSTEM

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 15 of this paper.